

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/445,004

Examiner

John R Paradiso

Applicant(s)

FORSSTROM ET AL.

Art Unit

3721

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Response filed 4/21/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6 and 8-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 November 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EUGENE KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S COMMENTS

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 4/21/2004 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art could not alone or in combination anticipate or make obvious a method and apparatus for threading a wrapper end from a wrapper roll in which a wrapper roll is rotated counter to a feeding direction until the wrapper end has fallen onto the surface of a wrapper feeding table and been recognized by a detector, whereupon the wrapper roll is rotated in a feeding direction and the wrapper end is guided by blown air.

The most pertinent prior art, HOOPER ET AL, discloses a wrapping machine in which a supply roll of paper is rolled out and the web falls onto a wrapping surface. HOOPER ET AL does not disclose the leading edge guided by blown air, nor the roll being rotated in a reverse direction.

REBA ET AL discloses threading a web using an air nozzle to guide the web end, but does not disclose a roll being rotated in a reverse direction. Additionally, HOOPER ET AL is used for packing rolls of paper while REBA ET AL is used for manufacturing continuous webs, two non-analogous procedures.

MIYAKE discloses a threading system in which a supply roll is rotated one way until a sensor detects a mark, then the roll changes direction. However, the sensor does not detect the leading edge of a web, but rather a barcode on the web, performing a substantially different function.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Paradiso. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday, 9:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (ET).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada, can be reached at the number listed below.

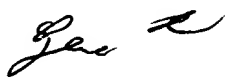
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the 3700 Technology Center Receptionist.


Examiner John Paradiso: (703) 308-2825

Additional Phone Numbers:

Supervisor Rinaldi Rada: (703) 308-2187
TC 3700 Receptionist: (703) 308-1148
Customer Service: (703) 306-5648
Fax (directly to Examiner) (703) 746-3253
Fax (Official): (703) 872-9306

July 22, 2004


EUGENE KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER